AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include the following changes to FIGS. 5A and 5B as indicated on the attached annotated copies of the formal drawing for FIGS. 5A and 5B respectively:

(1) add reference signs "502", "504", and "506" to FIG. 5A; and

(2) add reference signs "502", "504", "506", "508", "510", "512", and "514" to FIG. 5B.

Attachment: Replacement sheets

Annotated sheets showing changes

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed January 19, 2007, claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jordan et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,745,113 ("Jordan"). Claims 12-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan. The specification and claims 8, 12, and 13 are objected to for containing informalities. The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) for not including certain reference signs mentioned in the specification. Applicant traverses the rejections and objections, and amends the specification and claims 8, 12, and 13 to correct informalities contained therein to address the Examiner's objections. Applicant also amends the drawings to include reference signs mentioned in the specification but inadvertently omitted from the drawings. All amendments are fully supported by the application as originally filed and do not add new matter. Therefore, Applicant requests reconsideration in light of the following remarks.

According to the MPEP, "[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference" (MPEP 2131). Jordan fails to teach each and every element of the independent claims.

Original Independent Claim 1 Patently Distinguishes Over Jordan

Original independent claim 1 recites a method for displaying Semantic Web statements having start properties and stop properties related to lifetimes of the Semantic Web statements such that subjects and objects of the statements are displayed as nodes, and predicates of the statements are displayed as arcs connecting the nodes. As recited in the claim, nodes and arcs for particular ones of the statements are hidden when a selected display timeframe is outside the lifetimes of those particular statements. Jordan fails to describe this subject matter.

In particular, Jordan fails to describe hiding nodes and arcs of particular statements if the lifetimes of those statements fall outside a selected display timeframe. The Action asserts that this subject matter is described at column 9 line 64 to column 10 line 7 of Jordan. The cited passage states:

> Given a display of a relationship diagram, the relationship editor enables a user to create overlays showing additional information or relationships, or showing changes to objects, including relationships, over time. This additional information may be derived from other relationship diagrams, or it may be derived from the system's maps or database. Thus, for example, nodes or arcs may be colored or highlighted based on their satisfying some property, or color intensities may be used to display properties along a numerical range, or an overlay of additional arcs or nodes may be added to show additional relationships.

This passage describes a relationship editor that enables a user to create overlays showing changes to objects or relationships over time. In creating the overlays, nodes or arcs may be colored or highlighted based on their satisfying some property or different color intensities may be used. This passage, however, does not describe hiding nodes and arcs of particular statements if the lifetimes of those statements fall outside a selected display timeframe. While the passage states that objects can be created to show changes over time, the passage does not describe any specific changes or how any particular changes may be implemented. In contrast, independent claim 1 explicitly recites a very specific display effect, i.e., the selective hiding of a node and/or arcs representing a Semantic Web statement based on the lifetime of the statement and a selected display timeframe. Thus, Jordan does not teach each and every limitation of independent claim 1, as is required for a rejection under § 102(b).

In addition, claim 1 specifically describes displaying Semantic Web statements. The Semantic Web is a collection of software tools and content which provides information on the web in a way that can be readily processed and used by software agents and other computer programs. (see, e.g., Applicant's specification, paragraph 4). The Action fails to even attempt to demonstrate any description, teaching, or suggestion of this subject matter in Jordan. Rather, the Action merely states that no patentable weight is given to this subject matter. Doing so, however, is contrary to law and USPTO policy. As repeatedly recognized by the Federal Circuit, when the limitations in the body of the claim rely upon a term in the preamble and derive antecedent basis from such a term, the term in the preamble serves as a necessary component of the claimed invention. See, e.g., NTP, Inc. v. Research in Motion LTD, 75 U.S.P.Q.2D 1763, 1781 (Fed. Cir. 2005); see also Eaton Corp. v. Rockwell Int'l Corp., 323 F.3d 1332, 1340 (Fed. Cir. 2003). According to the MPEP, "[i]f the claim preamble, when read in the context of the entire claim, recites limitations of the claim, or,

if the claim preamble is 'necessary to give life, meaning, and vitality' to the claim, then the claim preamble should be construed as if in the balance of the claim." (MPEP § 2111.02). In the case of claim 1, the term "Semantic Web statements" in the preamble provides antecedent basis for "said statements" recited in the claim elements. Therefore, "Semantic Web statements" in the preamble is necessary to breathe life and meaning into the claim. Thus, the term "Semantic Web statements" in the preamble must be construed as a limitation on the scope of the claim.

Jordan fails to describe displaying Semantic Web statements. Jordan describes the use of the principles described therein in the context of a dedicated application (see, e.g., Jordan, column 5, lines 23-37). In fact, Jordan is utterly silent with respect to Semantic Web statements. In contrast, the use of a Semantic Web, as recited in claim 1, allows for a general data representation that may be transparently applied to any data model that conforms to the Semantic Web standard.

Applicant therefore requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of original independent claim 1. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and add further limitations thereto. Applicant therefore also requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejections of claims 2-7.

Moreover, various ones of the claims that depend from claim 1 further patently distinguish over Jordan. For example, original claim 2 recites hiding the particular ones of the statements having lifetimes that fall outside the selected time frames by painting the nodes and arcs of the particular statements to match a background for the display. The Action fails to identify any particular section of Jordan that describes this subject matter. Applicant has carefully reviewed Jordan and finds, on the basis of this review, that Jordan does not describe this subject matter. Therefore, if the Examiner intends to maintain this rejection, Applicant requests that the Examiner point, with specificity, to where this subject matter is described in Jordan.

Amended Independent Claim 8 Patently Distinguishes Over Jordan

Independent claim 8, which is amended solely to adopt the Action's suggested correction, recites similar subject matter as claim 1. Specifically, amended claim 8 recites a system including a

processor that controls the display of Semantic Web structured statements such that graphical

representations for particular statements whose lifetimes fall outside a selected timeframe are

hidden from the display. As set forth above, Jordan fails to describe this subject matter.

Moreover, in this case, the claim specifically recites Semantic Web in the body of the claim.

Therefore, the Action's alleged basis for not giving patentable weight to this subject matter does not

apply to claim 8. However, the Action failed to address Semantic Web in the rejection of claim 8.

As described above, Jordan fails to describe displaying Semantic Web statements.

Applicant therefore requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of

independent claim 8. Claim 9 depends from claim 8 and adds further limitations thereto. Applicant

therefore requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of claim 9 as well.

Original Independent Claim 10 Patently Distinguishes Over Jordan

Original independent claim 10 recites similar subject matter as claim 1. Specifically,

claim 10 recites a method for displaying time-varying information for Semantic Web statements.

As recited in the claim, statements from a Semantic Web resource are filtered based on a query and

displayed such that, statements whose lifetimes fall outside a selected timeframe are hidden from

the display. As set forth above, Jordan fails to describe this subject matter. Applicant therefore

requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of amended independent claim 10.

Original Independent Claim 11 Patently Distinguishes Over Jordan

Original independent claim 11 recites a computer-readable medium including instructions

for associating a lifetime with a Semantic Web structured statement. As recited in the claim, a start

property which denotes a start time when the statement becomes valid and a stop property which

includes a stop time when the statement ceases to be valid are implemented for the statement, and a

time interval between the start time and the stop time denotes the lifetime associated with the

statement. As set forth above, Jordan does not describe the use of Semantic Web statements.

Applicant therefore requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of

amended independent claim 11. Claims 12 and 14-18 depend from claim 11 and add further

limitations thereto. Applicant therefore requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of these claims as well.

Moreover, various ones of the claims that depend from claim 11 further patently distinguish over Jordan. For example, claim 13, which is amended solely to adopt the Action's suggested correction, recites similar subject matter as original claim 1. Specifically, claim 13 recites a computer-readable medium which includes instructions for hiding nodes and arcs corresponding to particular Semantic Web statements having lifetimes that fall outside a selected display timeframe. As set forth above, Jordan fails to describe this subject matter. Applicant therefore requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of claim 13 for this additional reason.

The § 103 Rejection of Claims 12-18

Dependent claims 12-18 stand rejected under § 103 as being unpatentable over Jordan. In support of the rejection, the Action states that using XML Schema Datatypes is an obvious variation in the implementation of the invention. As a preliminary matter, only claim 12 recites the XML limitations referred to in the Action, and each of claims 13-18 neither recites such limitations nor depends from claim 12. The Action fails to address the subject matter recited in these claims. Thus, Applicant requests withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of claims 13—18 for failing to set forth a prima facie case of obviousness against these claims. With respect to claim 12, without conceding to the Action's assertion with respect to knowledge possessed by one of ordinary skill in the art as it relates to the use XML, Applicant notes that claim 12 is patentable at least because it depends from independent claim 11. Therefore, Applicant requests withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of claim 12.

The Objections to the Specification and Claims 8, 12, and 13

The Action objected to the specification and to claims 8, 12, and 13 for containing informalities. The specification has been amended to correct the informalities pointed out by the Action. Claims 8, 12, and 13 have been amended as required by the Action. Applicant believes these amendments obviate the objections and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the claims and the specification.

The Objections to the Drawings

The Action objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) for failing to include
certain reference signs mentioned in the description. Enclosed herewith are annotated and
replacement drawing sheets for FIGS. 5A and 5B. In the enclosed drawing sheets, Applicant has
amended the drawings in FIGS. 5A and 5B to address the objection. In particular, in both drawings,
applicant has added appropriate reference signs to label elements in the drawings referenced in the
description. Support for the amendments to the drawings may be found throughout the specification
in, for example, paragraph [0032]. Applicant believes these amendments obviate the objection and
respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicant believes the pending application is
in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response other than as indicated in the enclosed
Amendment Transmittal. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945,
under Order No. BBNT-P01-261 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 19, 2007   Respectfully submitted,

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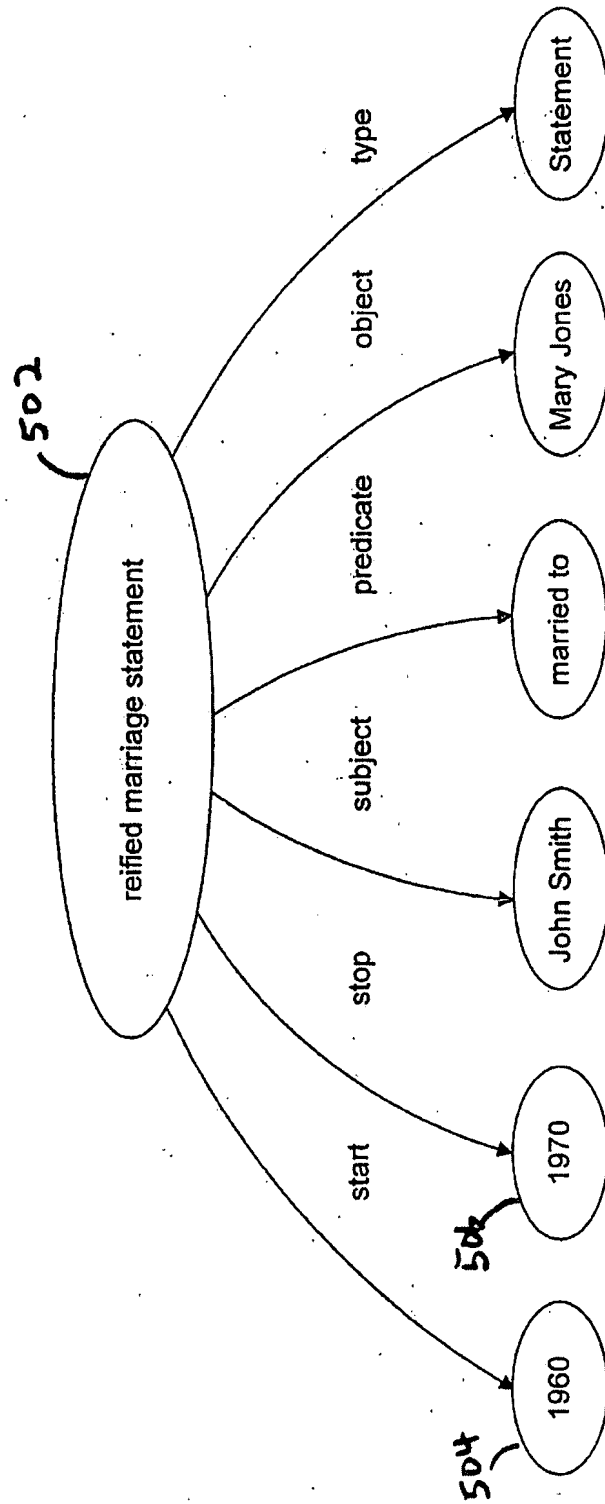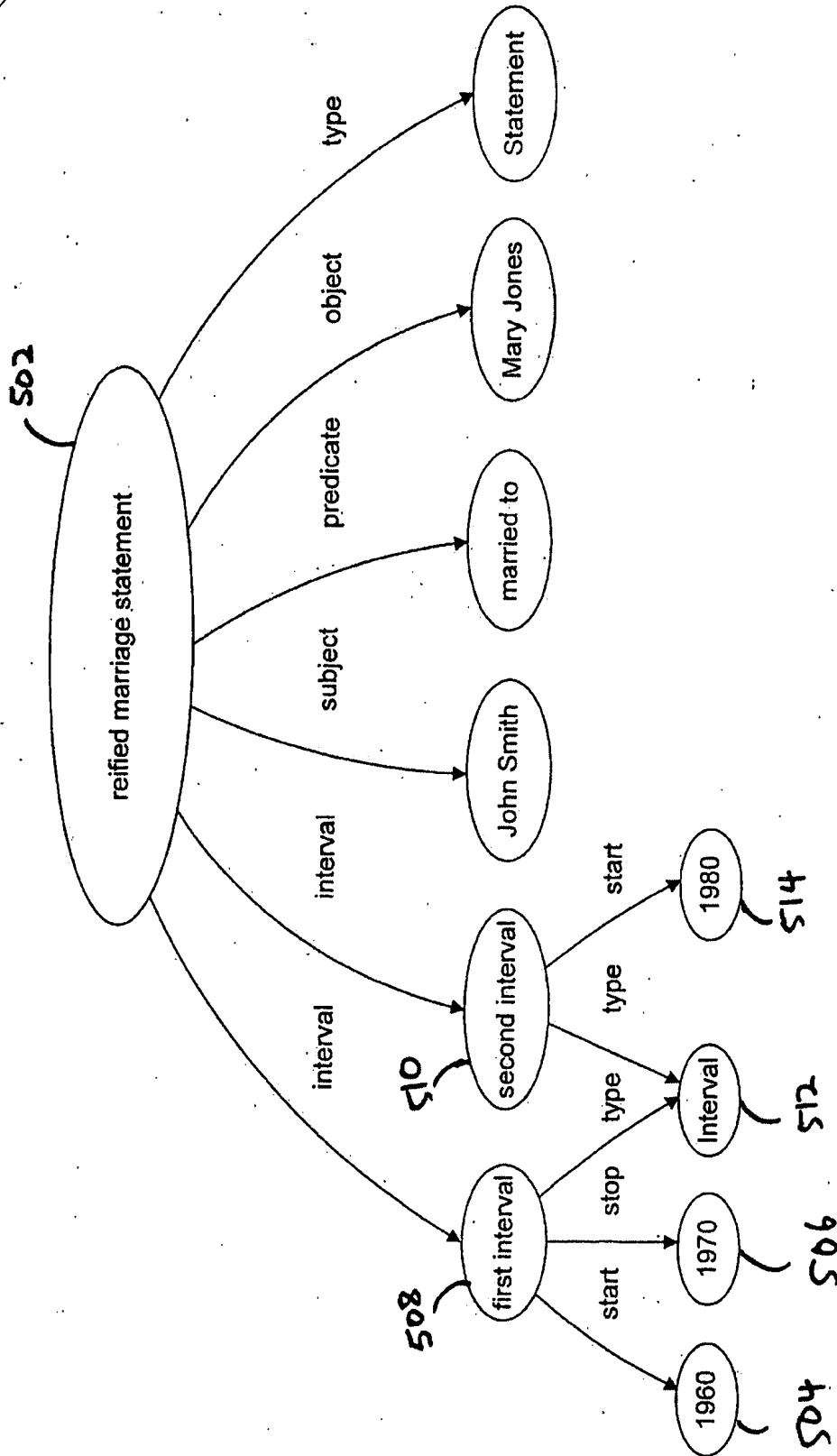   (617) 951-7050 (Fax)
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Attachments

FIG. 5A

ANNOTATED SHEET

FIG. 5B